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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138
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June 10, 2002

Colonel Delwyn R. Eulberg
Commander
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SUBJECT: FY'01 Range Decontamination Report

The report, as written, provides more detailed information than previous reports, however it still lacks sufficient detail to adequately respond to items (3) & (4) of section 3017 of Public Law 106-65. The Nellis Test and Training Range (NTTR) has been an active range for over 50 years. As presented, the report makes no attempt to define the extent of historic ordinance contamination, which is the first step or action necessary to estimate the costs for decontamination of the entire range. It is recognized that the DoD is conducting research in these areas but, a discussion of historic range contamination would at least provide some scope of the potential for future assessment activities.

In addition, there are some errors contained in item No. 6. of the report relating to the Plutonium contamination on the Range. A clean up level at 200 pCi/g for the Rancher Farmer scenario would provide for only a 47 mrem dose rate. Based on NNSA/NV's original calculations for this scenario, if the agreed to dose rate of 25 mrem is to be achieved, the clean up level must go down to approximately 106 pCi/g. The areas requiring remediation will significantly increase in size and therefore the costs presented will significantly increase.

It is recognized that in the future, methodologies and technologies for assessment and remediation may change. However, the information presented in the existing report should, as accurately as possible, present the site conditions and remediation alternatives as they exist today.

Note: This letter is for electronic distribution. The original signed letter is on file at the address shown on the letterhead.

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